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1. Introduction

High thermal stability of the lanthanid orthophosphates makes it possible to use them in the elaboration of the new advanced materials. In part, the ability to incorporate actinides in quite large quantities with the formation of solid solutions as well as good resistance to α -decay is very attractive.

Lanthanum orthophosphate belongs to $Ln^{III}PO_4$ (Ln^{III} = La–Dy) group with the monazite (CePO₄) structure. The parameters of unit cell (space group $P2_1/n$, $Z = 4$) are: $a = 6.831 \text{ Å}$, $b = 7.070 \text{ Å}$, $c = 6.503 \text{ Å}$, β = 103.27 [1]. The main structure fragments are LnO₉ polyhedron each linked with six neighboring polyhedron by the edge. Linkage is taking place by the connection of six polyhedron in oval-like circle inside of which PO_4 polyhedron is located. Such structure is the characteristic for orthophosphates, arsenates and vanadates of 3+ charged cations with large ionic radia (La–Gd and Bi). This group of orthophosphates has the high thermal stability $(T_m > 2270 \text{ K})$. They are almost insoluble in water, non-hygroscopic and have high chemical stability.

Low temperature heat capacity of the lanthanum orthophosphate (sample mass 38.8 mg) was measured in [2] by hybrid adiabatic relaxation method in the temperature range from 2 to 380 K. The uncertainty of measurements reported in this work is estimated by the authors from 1 to 3% depending on the temperature (higher precision generally above 100 K). Heat capacity was

ABSTRACT

[The critical a](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00406031)nalysis of literature heat capacity data in the temperature carried out. It was shown that joining of $C_p(T)$ curves obtained by the was performed improperly. Experimental heat capacity of $LaPO₄$ was mea 16-324K by the adiabatic calorimetry. The obtained data allows to consis ferent works and to fit the lanthanum orthophosphate heat capacity in the range. Standard thermodynamic properties were calculated on the basis capacity data: C_p⁰(298.15 K) = 102.5 ± 0.2 J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹, *S*⁰(298.15 K) = 108.7 ± 0.2 J K) – $H^0(0 \text{ K})$ = 17.44 ± 0.03 kJ mol⁻¹, $\Phi^0(298.15 \text{ K})$ = 50.21 ± 0.20 J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹.

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fitted in the temperature range from 10 to 38 (in K^{-1} mol⁻¹):

$$
C_{p,m}^0 = -1.0111 - 0.0955T + 0.0144T^2 - 1.330
$$

+5.54156 × 10⁻⁷T⁴ - 1.10366 × 10⁻⁹T
+0.848485 × 10⁻¹²T⁶.

Critical assessment of the experimental fitted curve showed that starting from 250 K s ues, estimated by Eq. (1) using coefficients 6], is located below experimental ones. For smoothed C_p = 99.03 J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹ and authors p value C_p = 101.28 at 298.15 K. In addition, calou using Eq. (1) at 12 K gives the negative value. E ficients of Eq. (1) , given in $[2]$, were corrected in decimals has been increased) to accurately repr experimental values.

The high temperature enthalpy $H^0(T) - H^0(2)$ was measured in $[4]$ in the region 373.0-159. calorimeter with massive isothermal shield. Comtions describing the temperature dependen capacity and enthalpy increment in the rang calculated on the basis of the experimental dat

$$
C_p^0(T) = 119.37 + 9.20 \times 10^{-3} T - 15.63 \times 10^5 T
$$

$$
H0(T) - H0(298.15 K) = 119.37T + 4.60 \times 10-
$$

+ 15.63 × 10⁵T⁻¹ – 4

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Fig. 1. Enthalpy increment of LaPO₄ from [3] (rhombus) and [4] (triangles), solid line—Eq. (3).

Uncertainties of the heat capacity vary from 1.6% at 298 K to 0.5% at 800 K and 1.8% at 1600 K.

Popa et al. [3] carried out the high temperature measurements of enthalpy increment using Setaram Multi-detector High Temperature Calorimeter (MHTC-96) equipped by the drop mode. Their results are in good agreement with drop-calorimetric enthalpy data by Tsagareishvili et al. [4], although the heat capacity data by Popa et al. [3] have the larger point deviation (Fig. 1). Fitting of enthalpy data was performed together with data [3] and $C_p^0(298.15 \text{ K})$ = 101.28 J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹ from [2]:

$$
C_p^0(T) = 121.1275 + 30.1156 \times 10^{-3}T - 25.625 \times 10^5 T^{-2}
$$
 (4)

with the uncertainty of 3%. Detail consideration of the region of joining of low and high temperature $C_p(T)$ curves showed that they do not coincide but intersect (Fig. 2).

The refinement of low temperature heat capacity was based on e[xper](#page-4-0)imental stu[dy, j](#page-4-0)oining of low and high temperature data and calculation of the thermodynamic pro[pert](#page-4-0)ies of $LaPO₄$ in the [wide](#page-4-0) temperature range were the goals of this research.

2. Experimental

Precipitation from the solution was used to synthesized the lanthanum orthophosphate. The lanthanum sesquioxide ("pure for analysis" grade, 99.9 mol.%) was dissolved in concentrated $HNO₃$ at moderate (∼323 K) heating. Ammonia solution was added to [t](#page-4-0)he formed solution of lanthanum nitrate to the point of pH 7–8. Obtained $La(OH)_3$ was repeatedly washed by the bidistilled water to remove soluble [nitr](#page-4-0)ates. The separation of liquid and solid [phas](#page-4-0)es was made by the repeated decantation. Pre-ca[lcula](#page-4-0)ted amount of the phosphoric acid was added to the sediment at the intensive mixing and was kept during 12 h. Obtained precipitate of the orthophosphate was carefully washed by water. Obtained LaPO₄·*n*H₂O was dried initially at 333 K and fired at 773 and 1173 K. Purity of the obtained lanthanum orthophosphate was veri[fied b](#page-4-0)y X-ray diffraction at the room temperatures using by DRON-3M setup. Unit cell parameters of the obtained LaPO₄ ($a = 6.841(3)$ $a = 6.841(3)$ $a = 6.841(3)$ Å, $b = 7.065(3)$ Å, $c = 6.503(2)$ Å, $\beta = 103.27(3)$) are in good agreement with literature data [1].

Fig. 2. Intersection of low and high temperature heat capacity [2]; solid line, [3]; dashed line, [4].

The prepared sample of $LaPO₄$ was white-colored power and power an grain size from 10 to 100 μ m. Heat capacity me carried out in the adiabatic calorimeter TERMIS B ity measurements were carried out in the autom the operating system with PC and unit of analogou acquisition. Samples were loaded in the thin-wa nium containers (inner volume 1 cm^3) sealed by in iron-rhodium thermometer (ITS-90 scale) was use ature measurement. Setup design and operating reported elsewhere [5]. The reliability of the mea was verified by measurements of standard subst acid. The uncertainties of heat capacity measurer the temperatures below 20 K, \pm 0.4% in the range in the range 40-350 K. Sample weight was 1.4270' mass calculated from [6] was 233.877 g mol⁻¹.

Experimental $C_p(T)$ points (Table 1) were sm ADEK equation [7]:

$$
C_p^0(T) = a_0 T(C_V)^2 + n \left[\left(\frac{1}{3} \right) \sum_{j=1}^3 a_j D_j \left(\frac{\theta_j}{T} \right) + a_4 E + a_5 K \left(\frac{\theta_L}{T}, \frac{\theta_U}{T} \right) \right],
$$

where *n* is the number of atoms in molecule (for L *E* are Debye and Einstein functions, *K* is Kieffer *k* θ_2 , θ_3 , $\theta_{\rm E}$, $\theta_{\rm L}$, $\theta_{\rm U}$ are the characteristic temperatures; *a*¹ a_4 , a_5 the linear coefficients. The *a* and θ values we LSM [9]. The Eq. (5) was used for calculation of ϵ change and derived Gibbs energy.

3. Results and discussions

Measurements of $LaPO₄$ heat capacity was c region 25–324 K. In the range 25–200 K data $[2]$ a [in good](#page-2-0) agreement, whereas above 200 K experin separate (Fig. 3). Smoothing of the experimental with Eq. (5) allows to calculate the thermodynam coefficients (Table S1, Supplementary materials), and to extrapolate to

curves from 324 to 373 K (starting point of [4]). Our extrapolation curve coincides rather well with Eq. (2) of [4] in the range 373-450 K and differ from [3]. Critical assessment of the data obtained in this work and the literature ones allows us to recommend the heat capacity from the following works as most reliable for different temperature ranges:

Fig. 3. Comparison of heat capacity from [2] (filled triangle) and this work (rhombus).

(1) 2–25 K—[2] (experimental);

(2) 25–324 K—this work (experimental);

(3) 324–373 K—this work (extrapolation);

(4) 373–1600 K—[4] (experimental).

As well as heat capacity curve in the wide cannot be described by one equation, we grad experimental data with the overlapping of the and presented the results in Table 1. Smoot capacity data from $[2]$ in the range from 2 to 2 using the polynomial, described in [10]:

$$
C_p^0(T) = \sum_{j=0}^m A_j (1 - \exp(-0.001T)^j).
$$

The deviation of experimental points for th 25–324 K is given in Figs. S1a and S1b (Supple relatively. Smoothed values of the heat capacit change and derived Gibbs energy are presente temperature 25 K $C_p^0(T)$ quantities were calcul and (6) differ by 0.001 J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹ (3.202 and relatively).

The refined standard thermodynamic fu are: $C_p^0(298.15 \text{ K}) = 102.5 \pm 0.2 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$, S⁰ 0.2 J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹, $H^0(298.15 \text{ K}) - H^0(0 \text{ K}) = 1$ $\Phi^0(298.15 \text{ K}) = 50.21 \pm 0.20 \text{ K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}.$

Table 2

Smoothed thermodynamic properties of LaPO 4

